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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2015-27

Azoxystrobin

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) is proposing to establish maximum residue limits (MRLs) for azoxystrobin on various commodities to permit the import and sale of foods containing such residues.

Azoxystrobin is a fungicide currently registered in Canada for use on various commodities.

The PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the imported food commodities when azoxystrobin is used according to label directions in the exporting country, and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as an MRL on the corresponding imported commodity. An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for azoxystrobin is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRLs can be found in Appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

The proposed MRLs, to replace or be added to the MRLs already established for azoxystrobin, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Azoxystrobin.

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
Azoxystrobin	methyl (α*E*)-2-[[6-(2-cyanophenoxy)-4-pyrimidinyl]oxy]-α-(methoxymethylene) benzeneacetate, including the isomer (*Z*)-methyl 2-[[6-(2-cyanophenoxy)-4-pyrimidinyl]oxy]-α-(methoxymethylene)benzeneacetate	50	Leaves of root and tuber vegetables (Crop Group 2)[2]
		20	Tea (dried leaves)
		3.0	Edible-podded legume vegetables (Crop Subgroup 6A)[3]
		0.5	Succulent shelled pea and bean (Crop Subgroup 6B)[4]
		0.07	Asian pears
		0.03	Green coffee beans

[1] ppm = parts per million
[2] The proposed MRL will replace the current established MRL of 35 ppm for the crop group.
[3] The proposed MRL will replace the current established MRL of 0.02 ppm in edible-podded beans, and 1.6 ppm in edible-podded peas.
[4] The proposed MRL will replace the current established MRL of 0.02 ppm in succulent peas, and 0.2 ppm in succulent beans.

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for azoxystrobin in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs.[1] American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by pesticide or commodity.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Green coffee beans	0.03	Not established	0.03
Tea (dried leaves)	20	Not established	Not established
Asian pears	0.07	Not established	Not established
Crop Group 2	50	50	Not established
Crop Subgroup 6A	3.0	3.0 (except soybean)	3.0 (Legume vegetables)
Crop Subgroup 6B	0.5	0.5	

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for azoxystrobin up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date that they are entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed Maximum Residue Limits

Residue data for azoxystrobin were submitted to support the maximum residue limit(s) on imported Asian pears, green coffee beans, and tea (dried leaves). A processing study in treated coffee green beans was also reviewed to determine the potential for concentration of total residues of azoxystrobin and the Z-isomer (R230310) into processed commodities. In addition, previously reviewed residue data from field trials conducted in/on Crop Group 2, Crop Subgroup 6A, and Crop Subgroup 6B were reassessed in the framework of this petition in order to align the currently established MRL with the US tolerances.

Maximum Residue Limits

The recommendation for maximum residue limits (MRLs) for azoxystrobin was based upon the residues observed in crop commodities treated according to label directions [or to exaggerated rates] in the exporting country, and the guidance provided in the OECD MRL Calculator. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the proposed MRL(s) for imported Asian pears, green coffee beans, tea (dried leaves), as well as the residue data used for the alignment of MRLs for Crop Group 2, Crop Subgroup 6A, and Crop Subgroup 6B.

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial and Processing Data Used to Support MRLs

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)[1]	Preharvest Interval (days)	Minimum Residues[2] (ppm)	Maximum Residues[2] (ppm)	Experimental Processing Factor
Green coffee beans	Foliar/441.7-459.3 g ai/ha/season	14-15	<0.02	<0.026	1.3 (Instant coffee)
Tea (dried leaves)	Foliar/660 g ai/ha/season	14	1.04	8.59	NA
Asian pears	Foliar /2218-2333 g ai/ha/season	7	<0.02	<0.05	NA
Crop Group 2	Foliar/1647.7 g ai/ha/season	0	6.6	23	NA
Crop Subgroup 6A (edible-podded peas)	Foliar/1816-1863 g ai/ha/season	0	0.61	1.5	NA
Crop Subgroup 6A (edible-podded beans)			0.10	1.6	NA

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)[1]	Preharvest Interval (days)	Minimum Residues[2] (ppm)	Maximum Residues[2] (ppm)	Experimental Processing Factor
Crop Subgroup 6B (succulent peas)	Foliar/1817-2144 g ai/ha/season	0	0.04	0.18	NA
Crop Subgroup 6B (succulent beans)			0.02	0.09	NA

[1] g a.i./ha = grams of active ingredient per hectare
[2]Total residues of azoxystrobin and the Z-isomer (R230310)

Following the review of all available data, MRLs as proposed in Table 1 are recommended to cover total residues of azoxystrobin and the Z-isomer (R230310). Total residues of azoxystrobin and the Z-isomer (R230310) in these imported crop commodities at the proposed MRLs will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.